GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1811
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
PROCUREMENT OF DEFECTIVE CONTAINER BOXES
ARUN KUMAR

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ordnance Factory Chanda sustained and extra expenditure of Rs. 42.85 lakh in the rectification of defective container boxes procured from trade and cleared its inspection by the Areas Inspector of Senior Quality Assurance Estt. (Armament)/Senior Quality Assurance Officer Between May and December 1994;

(b) if so, whether the matter was enquired into;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the action taken in the matter;

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed for causing loss of Rs. 42.85 lakh to the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (f): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1811 14.3.2002

Ordnance Factory Chanda procured container box C-40A from trade duly inspected and accepted by Area Inspector of DGQA. Accepted 130mm ammunitions were packed in these boxes and dispatched to Central Ammunition Depot Phulgaon.The boxes were again inspected by the Resident Inspector of DGQA at the time of packing.Subsequently Central Ammunition Depot, Phulgaon complained about ingress of water in the ammunition packed in these container boxes.

A Board of Officers from Director General Quality Assurance (DGQA) and Ordnance Factory Chanda made on the spot investigatior to find out the reasons for the defect. On investigation, the joint team attributed the ingress of water into the boxes either during transit or at the time of storage under open condition as the cause of the defect. Ordnance Factory Chanda repaired the affected boxes to avoid damage to the ammunitions at a cost of Rs. 42.85 lakh as per the suggestions made by the Board.

The Board also recommended certain design changes in the boxes and strict control over production. The recommendations of the Board have been implemented to avoid recurrence.